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his life, he devoted his intellect to the welfare of the whole country rather than to that of any part. This is particularly noticeable in his speech on the death of Mr. Sumner and in that on the silver question. Many will recall how the former, delivered in Congress at a time when the smouldering embers of civil discord were being continually fanned into life, thrilled the entire land with the sweet refrain, "My countrymen, know one another, and you will love one another." The speech on the financial question brought its author scarcely less fame; for in setting his face firmly against what he conceived to be downright repudiation, Mr. Lamar held the South to the cause of honest money. In doing so, he set at naught the "instructions" of the Mississippi legislature, whose members threatened to unseat him; but his constituents sent him back with enthusiasm.

Mr. Lamar made an admirable secretary of the interior; and in spite of many predictions to the contrary, appears to have done very well during his brief experience on the bench. Like other men who had joined the ill-starred Confederacy, he lived to see the complete disappearance of sectionalism from politics. No more striking demonstration of this fact could be given than his own appointment to membership in the highest court of the land. In the face of such inspiring acts of magnanimity the bitter feeling in the North and the South died of sheer inanition, and the country entered upon a new period of history with a fuller realization than ever before of the tremendous tasks and possibilities before it.

B. J. RAMAGE.

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Southern Sidelights: A Picture of Social and Economic Life in the South a Generation before the War. By EDWARD INGLE, A.B. New York & Boston, T. Y. Crowell & Co., 1896. — 373 PP.

Mr. Ingle has made a valuable statistical contribution to the study of Southern history, and historians and even the general reader will thank him for the immense labor he has spent upon his book. His subtitle is, I think, something of a misnomer, for he has not put his materials together in such a way as to form a very clear picture, though he has certainly given us a storehouse of facts. His reading has been wide, but he has mainly relied on two very valuable sources of information — the *Southern Literary Messenger* and *De Bow's Review*. A larger use of representative Southern newspapers would have helped him at some points, but would have

greatly increased his labor without perhaps proportionally increasing the value of his book.

There are nine chapters, one on the traits of the Southern people, one on cotton, one on phases of industry, one on trade and commerce, two on educational and literary matters, one on the Southern conventions, one on slavery and finally one describing the crisis that culminated in the Civil War. Every one of these chapters is filled with facts that give evidence of thorough and laborious research, and that will be invaluable to the student. Indeed, Mr. Ingle may flatter himself by believing that his book is not likely soon to be superseded as an authority on the matters of which it treats. I think he may felicitate himself, too, upon the moderate and fair tone which he has adopted in treating subjects that are still capable of arousing animosity. He must, however, expect the fate of the moderate man in failing to satisfy readers whose opinions and sympathies are very decided.

Mr. Ingle has succeeded best in the chapters dealing with economic matters. His sketch of ante-bellum Southern literature leaves some things to be desired, as does also his account of the endeavors to establish free schools. The chapter entitled "Plans for Progress," which is mainly occupied by a discussion of the various Southern commercial conventions, is hardly trenchant enough in its criticism, and fails to notice some of the earlier meetings held in Georgia and South Carolina that were not without interesting features. The discussion of slavery as an institution is equally lacking in trenchant treatment: in other words, I think Mr. Ingle succeeds better in gathering facts than in coördinating them and drawing conclusions from them. Some of the conclusions that he does draw puzzle me considerably, as, for example, when he remarks that "the suppression of the Bank, and the scattering of deposits through the country came too late to overcome the original advantage [with regard to an accumulation of capital] acquired by the North"! Does Mr. Ingle believe that if the deposits had been scattered through the country from Washington's first administration it would greatly have affected the relative situations of North and South in this matter? But I do not wish to be captious, for I recognize fully the value of Mr. Ingle's book. Some of his conclusions are not mine, and I should often prefer a more radical treatment than he has thought fit to give; but I cannot ask for a more conscientious or painstaking piece of work.

W. P. TRENT.